

House of Representatives in their fight against this silent killer, and I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting this timely and overdue resolution.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 24, 2007*

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I am writing regarding today's rollcall votes 865, H. Res. 257, supporting the goals and ideals of Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month, and 866, H. Res. 643, recognizing September 11 as a day of remembrance, extending sympathies to those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, and their families, honoring the heroic actions of our Nation's first responders and Armed Forces, and reaffirming the commitment to defending the people of the United States against any and all future challenges.

Please accept my apologies as I was meeting with constituents in my district and was not able to cast my votes tonight. It was my intention to vote "yes" on both resolutions.

#### HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAINT PHILOMENA SCHOOL

### HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 24, 2007*

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Saint Philomena School for 100 years of educational excellence in Delaware County.

Located in Lansdowne, Pennsylvania, St. Philomena opened its doors on September 4, 1907, making it one of Delaware County's oldest Catholic schools. Since that time, the school has provided four generations of quality Catholic education, touching the hearts and minds of countless children, and epitomizing the school's motto, "Experience the Difference, Commit to the Future".

I would like to recognize the school's pastor, Monsignor David Benz, and principal, Ms. Patricia Walsh, for their service and impassioned dedication to educating the students of the Saint Philomena School.

I would also like to recognize and extend my gratitude to Ms. McKenna, an alumna of the school who has devoted 45 years to teaching, 30 of which were as the 8th grade teacher at St. Philomena School.

I ask that everyone join me in congratulating St. Philomena School on 100 years of great education, recognizing its contribution to the community, and acknowledging the dedication of its staff and administrators.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 24, 2007*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I was unable to travel to Washington for votes.

However, I want you to know I would have recorded "yes" votes for these recorded votes. They included: (1) H. Res. 257—Supporting the goals and ideals of Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month, and; H. Res. 643—Recognizing September 11 as a day of remembrance, extending sympathies to those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, and their families, honoring the heroic actions of our nation's first responders and Armed Forces, and reaffirming the commitment to defending the people of the United States against any and all future challenges.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE LATE CLIFTON J. JEFFERSON

### HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 24, 2007*

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a former mayor, educator and businessman who dedicated his life to his hometown of Lynchburg, South Carolina. The town is dedicating a park in honor of the late Clifton J. Jefferson on October 6, 2007, and I believe it is fitting that the U.S. Congress honors his public service as well.

Clifton Jefferson was born in Lynchburg on September 10, 1923. Raised by his grandparents, John and Carrie Jefferson, Clifton attended Lynchburg public schools until he reached high school. At that time, he moved to Florence to attend Wilson High School, and upon graduation matriculated at South Carolina State College.

Clifton Jefferson didn't come from a wealthy family, and he had to perform odd jobs to help pay for school. But he had a tremendous work ethic and real rapport with his fellow students. They affectionately called him "Jeff," and elected him president of the Senior class at South Carolina State. He earned a bachelors degree in agriculture in 1946, and then decided to move to Baltimore, Maryland where he pursued further studies at Howard University, Morgan State, and the University of Maryland. At the time, Jeff helped integrate the University of Maryland as its first black student. He stayed on in Baltimore for eight years, but returned home when he was needed to care for his ailing grandmother.

Back at home in Lynchburg, Clifton Jefferson worked in the Lee County Public School System for 32 years. He began as a classroom teacher, became an assistant principal at Fleming Elementary and Mt. Pleasant High School, and went on to become principal of Bishopville Junior High School. He also held positions as assistant director of Lee County Vocational School, now known as the Lee County Career & Technology Center, and as coordinator of the Old Ceta Program, now Project ACT. All the while, he owned and operated Jefferson Funeral Home in Lynchburg.

Breaking color barriers was a common theme of Clifton Jefferson's life. He was elected the first black mayor of Lynchburg, and served his community for 16 consecutive years in that role. Some of his major accomplishments included integrating the Lee County sheriff's department, the county court house, and various agencies. He also brought the first Head Start program to Lynchburg.

During his tenure, Mayor Jefferson was instrumental in investing in his town's infrastruc-

ture by improving the water, sewer, and drainage systems, creating two parks, and increasing the number of town employees to provide services to the community. He also established the first Christmas parade and magnolia festival in Lynchburg.

Clifton Jefferson was an active member of Warren Chapel United Methodist Church, and held various positions on boards in Lee County and in South Carolina. His memberships included: the South Carolina Conference of Black Mayors, National Conference of Black Mayors, the World Conference of Black Mayors, South Carolina Municipal Association, Lee County Teachers Association, South Carolina Teachers Association, National Teachers Association, NAACP, Lee County Chapter of SC State Alumni, South Carolina Morticians Association, Florence Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and the National Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.

He was married to the former Gwendolyn Weaver, and the couple had six children, six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and all the members of this esteemed body to join me in recognizing the extraordinary work of Clifton J. Jefferson. I also commend the Town of Lynchburg for honoring their late mayor's great work by naming a park in his memory. This will serve as a lasting tribute to a gentle giant, who loved his hometown and succeeded in making it a better place.

#### A TRIBUTE TO THE PASADENA SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION

### HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 24, 2007*

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Pasadena Symphony, which will be celebrating its 80th anniversary on October 13, 2007—the beginning of the 2007–2008 season. Since 1928, the Pasadena Symphony has demonstrated musical talent, stable leadership, and remarkable service to the community.

In 1922, Will Rounds, Director of Instrumental Music in the Pasadena public school system and former member of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, initiated a movement for a local civic orchestra. The Pasadena Civic Orchestra Association was officially developed in 1928 by a group of civic-minded citizens and Reginald Bland, the orchestra's first director. Originally formed to promote free music of all forms to the public and to provide young aspiring musicians an opportunity to train through practical experience, the orchestra has transformed from a group of volunteer and student musicians into a nationally-recognized orchestra that has won worldwide acclaim.

Much of the symphony's success can be attributed to its stable leadership. Since its founding, the orchestra has had only four music directors. In 1936, Dr. Richard Lert began his 36 year tenure as director and established a scholarship fund for students who performed in the orchestra. With Dr. Lert at the helm, the orchestra's name was changed to the Pasadena Symphony Association in 1954; in 1955, the symphony became a founding member of the Los Angeles Symphony